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REGISTERED TO PRACTICE BEFORE U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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May 13, 2004

Serial Number: $\frac{10/687,513}{16}$ Filed: October $\frac{10}{16}$, 2003

Applicant: William S. Lerner

Title: A method using light emitting diodes of warning

individuals about hot surfaces on stoves

Group Art Unit: 3742

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Attached is a completed Form PTO-1449 and copies of the pertinent parts of the references cited thereon. Below are comments on these references pursuant to Rule 98:

U.S. Patent No. 6, 104,007 to Lerner discloses liquid crystal compositions designed to turn red at or above a specified temperature and that are shaped in the outline of word "HOT" and embedded on the top surface of the heating element of stoves or window surface of wall ovens and toaster ovens.

- U.S. Patent No. 6,639,190 to Lerner discloses liquid crystal compositions designed to turn red or orange and remain red or orange at or above a specified temperature, such as 115 degrees Fahrenheit and are shaped in the outline of the word "HOT", and are embedded on the top surface of the heating element of stoves or window surface of wall ovens and toaster ovens so.
- U.S. Patent No. 6,700,100 to Lerner discloses a hot-button type heat alert safety device attachable to a surface for warning individuals that the surface is hot, comprising a thermochromic composition, a button-shaped container for housing the composition, having a convex face, wherein the convex face overlying said composition and the container being transparent in at least a portion of the container overlying the thermochromic composition.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,997,964 to Klima discloses a liquid crystal display and method of making, wherein the display includes a layer of support material stabilizing a layer of liquid crystal material in dimensional thickness and uniformity, wherein the invention is specifically directed for making heatsensitive display labels.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,499,597 to Kronberg discloses a reversible optical temperature indicator utilizes thermochromic semiconductors which vary in color in response to various

temperature levels, wherein the thermochromic material is enclosed in an enamel which provides protection and prevents breakdown at higher temperatures, wherein cadmium sulfide is the preferred semiconductor material, wherein the indicator may be utilized as a sign or in a striped arrangement.

- U.S. Patent No. 3,822,594 to Parker discloses an electrothermal analog temperature indicating device having an electrical heating resistance element with means for electrical connection to a heating appliance, a liquid crystal composition thermally responsive to said heating appliance and means for insulating said device to provide a cooling response of said liquid crystal composition analogous to the cooling response of said heating appliance, when electrical energy is no longer being supplied to said heating element.
- U.S. Patent No. 3,827,301 to Parker discloses an apparatus is provided for indicating the temperature of as surface or heat source by employing a single liquid crystal composition, which is at varying distances from surface.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,441,344 to Cook discloses a measurement and display of the temperature of a cooking surface of a cooking utensil by a temperature sensor, such as thermocouple, in thermal contact either directly with cooking surface or through a clamp on the side of the cooking utensil.

- U.S. Patent No. 5,144,112 to Wyatt et al. discloses a food service process including a hot food dish and an insulated dome, wherein hot food is served onto the dish, the dome set over the dish, and the dome covered hot food dish is delivered to the intended consumer, wherein a thermochromic member disposed in a heat conductive sleeve is mounted in the lift knob of the dome.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,805,188 to Parker discloses a timetemperature indicator, particularly adapted for use with closed sterilizing or cooking vessels, such as cookers and sterilizers, to indicate at what temperature and for how long material contained within the vessel has been heating or cooking.
- U.S. Patent No. 3,701,344 to Walls et al. discloses an improvement to a wireless cooking apparatus which is a knob having an indicator, wherein changing the knob's color enables the cook to manipulate the heat in order to obtain the best results in using waterless cookware.
- U.S. Patent No. 2,710,274 to Kuehl discloses a multiplayer glass sheet or compound glass, as windowglass for windows, doors, sky-lights or like of buildings or of vehicles, wherein the transparency of said multi-layer glass sheet being reversibly variable with changes in luminous intensity and/or temperature.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,891,250 to Weibe et al. discloses an electronic component temperature monitoring system for

monitoring the temperature of electrical and electronic components and integrated circuit, wherein a temperature indicating decalcomania attached to the electrical and/or electronic component to be monitored.

- U.S. Patent No. 4,390,275 to Schilf et al. discloses an object carrier with a transparent plate of an opaque backing which carries a thin liquid crystal layer, wherein the average reflection of light by the crystal layer is used as a representation of its average temperature.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,032,687 to Hornsby discloses an applique attachable by pressure sensitive adhesive or the like to a supporting surface, wherein the applique includes a base sheet, a layer of color changeable liquid crystalline material disposed upon the base sheet, and a transparent covering layer overlying the liquid crystalline layer, wherein the applique is removable for use as a novelty or a premium item and is color changeable by application of heat.
- U.S. Patent No. 3,893,340 to Parker discloses a thermometer comprising a temperature indicator and a thermally coupled insulator for contacting the object the temperature of which is to be measured.
- U.S. Patent No. 3,796,884 to Tricoire discloses a process for manufacturing a thermographic plate, wherein a sensitive

layer comprised of liquid crystals, associated to a heat guiding layer made of latex and producing a screen effect perpendicularly to said sensitive layer.

U.S. Patent No. 3,590,371 to Shaw discloses a circuit discontinuities in conductor members embedded in pieces of glass, such as windshields, detected by placing in operative association with the glass a stream of cholesteric-phase liquid-crystal material having appropriate color-change temperature-range characteristics.

U.S. Patent No. 1,692,012 to Wells discloses a device for indicating abnormal conditions in the operation of engines, machinery, and the like.

The Whirlpool built-in electric ceramic cooktops featured in the Whirlpool built-in cooking appliances catalogue printed in March of 1997 by Whirlpool Corporation, wherein the hot surface indicator light provides no visual association to a particular heating element.

The electric cooktop models 8670RV and 8770RB featured in the Magic Chef's "So Right At Home" catalogue published by Maytag Appliances in 1997, wherein the hot surface indicator light provides no visual association to a particular heating element.

The "Touch Top" cooktops featured in the Dacor's " A Touch of Glass" catalogue published by Dacor in January of 1997, wherein the hot surface indicators lights congregated together without visual association to a particular heating element.

The Dacor electric convertible cooktops featured in the Dacor's "A reflection of good taste" catalogue published by Dacor in May of 1997, wherein the hot surface indicators lights congregated together without visual association to a particular heating element.

The GE built-in electric cooktop model GE Profile JP350BV featured in the GE's "Appliance Selection Guide" catalogue published by GE in the summer of 1997, wherein the hot surface indicators lights congregated together without visual association to a particular heating element.

None of the above items discloses a heat warning safety device comprising thermochromic ink or epoxy in the form of a heat warning symbol sprayed, stamped, stenciled, silk screened, embossed to the hot surfaces of appliances, wherein the device is invisible when cold and is visible when a threshold temperature is reached, wherein in a second version when cold the device shows only the outline of the warning symbol and when hot shows the full symbol, wherein a plurality of these versions of the devices can be placed on various parts of appliances to maximize the effectiveness of the warning system and to tailor

it both to children who need guidance as to where to look for said symbols and to adults as to whom the impact is greatest when the warning symbol appears from a point of invisibility, wherein alternatively, the warning symbol appears on the lip of a mug and advertises the staying power of the hot liquid therein.

Very truly yours,

Steven Horowitz, Reg. No. 31,768

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EXAMINER

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on May 13, 2004, in connection with patent application no. 10/687,513, A METHOD USING LIGHT EMITTING DIODES OF WARNING INDIVIDUALS ABOUT HOT SURFACES ON STOVES, I deposited: (i) 8 pages of Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (ii) form PTO-1449 (iii) copies of prior art references not previously included (iv) this Certificate of Mailing and (v) an Acknowledgement postcard

with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the address below:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dated: May 13, 2004